

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00290 010748Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

/080 W

-----010902 087033 /21

R 010701Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8744

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 0290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IS, JO

SUBJ: RENEWED TENSION IN HEBRON

1. LOCAL MEDIA REPORT THAT ISRAELI SOLDIERS CLASHED WITH ARABS FEB. 25 AT THE IBRAHIMI MOSQUE IN HEBRON WHEN ISRAELI GUARDS PREVENTED A MUSLIM FUNERAL PROCESSION FROM PASSING THROUGH A PORTION OF THE MOSQUE WHICH HAS BEEN USED AS A SYNAGOGUE SINCE THE 1967 WAR. NO INJURIES OR ARRESTS REPORTED.

2. ACCORDING TO A MUSLIM WHO WORKS AT THE MOSQUE IN HEBRON, TRADITIONAL BURIAL THERE INVOLVES FUNERAL PROCESSION WITHIN THE HARAM IBRAHIMI TO EACH OF THE PROPHETS' CENOTAPHS. ALTHOUGH THE HALL OF ABRAHAM HAS BEEN USED BY THE ISRAELIS AS A SYNAGOGUE SINCE 1967, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN STOPPED, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE.

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3. IN A RELATED MATTER, JEWISH SETTLERS FROM KIRYAT ARBA HAVE COMPLAINED TO THE MILGOV, THAT JEWISH RELIGIOUS BOOKS IN THE HARAM HAVE BEEN ABUSED AND THEY HAVE ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO STATION GUARDS IN THE AREA.

4. COMMENT: GIVEN PRESENCE OF ISRAELI SOLDIERS IN

THE HARAM, IT IS HARD TO SEE NECESSITY OF SETTLERS'  
STANDING GUARD AS WELL. IN THE PAST, CHANGES IN  
THE STATUS QUO HAVE ALWAYS PROVOKED PROTEST AND OFTEN  
CONFRONTATIONS AND CLASHES.  
NEWLIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL DISORDERS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PINS, IS, JO  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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